

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 21-54 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 21 recites, inter alia, measuring a value of said first free-wheeling current; controlling the switching of said second switch responsive to said value of said first free-wheeling current; and regulating power from said power supply unit.

Claim 37 recites, inter alia, a first means for measuring a first free-wheeling current flowing through said first free-wheeling current path; and a second free-wheeling current path comprising: a second switch connected in series with said inductive converter, said second switch operable between an "On" position and a "Off" position; and a second means for measuring a second free-wheeling current flowing through said second free-wheeling current path.

The art of record does not disclose the above limitations, nor would it be obvious to modify the art of record so as to include either of the above limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica Han whose telephone number is 571-272-2078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:30am-3:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica Lewis can be reached on 571-272-1838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jessica Han/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2838